



STINGER HOCKEY

YEAR IN REVIEW 1985-86

The 1985-86 hockey season at Concordia was one filled with numerous highs and lows. Head coach Paul Arsenault, who completed his 22nd season behind the bench, utilized no less than 34 players during the course of the year as the Stingers compiled an overall record of 16-21-1.

Winners of nine consecutive Quebec University Hockey League (QUHL) championships between 1975 and 1984, the Stingers saw that streak come to an end two years ago when they completed the regular schedule with a 5-13-2 mark. With competition in the league getting tougher each year, Arsenault knew he had his work cut out for him to try and restore some vitality to the program. Going primarily with newcomers to the roster he put together a squad which finished the QUHL season with a record of 7-12-1. That was good enough for fourth place and a semi-final playoff berth against eventual league champion Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières. Les Patriotes, who play out of Cap de la Madelaine, won the best of three series two games to one, but the Stingers played them tough, scoring a 6-3 triumph at home in the second game before an enthusiastic crowd at the Loyola rink.

Concordia began the year on a high note, winning five of its first six non-conference encounters. However, the club couldn't get untracked in QUHL action and won only one of its first seven encounters. Heading into 1986 the Stingers had a cumulative record of 6-13. But the new year began with some flashes of brilliance from the past. The Stingers captured their own CBC-Micron Invitational Tournament with a thrilling 6-5 victory in the championship game over the University of Ottawa Gee Gees. Not bad for a team which had lost its previous nine games heading into the January tourney.

Four year veteran forward Mark Kosturik concluded his university career in magical fashion with 38 goals and 43 assists for 81 points. That made the 23 year old North Bay, Ontario native the all-time leading scorer in Stingers history, with 257 points (119 goals and 138 assists), five more than the previous mark set by Gilles Hebert two years ago. Hebert, however, took five years to accomplish his feat.



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Harnosed forward Frankie Morris, a native of Alexandria, Ontario, reached a sort of milestone himself. The four year veteran surpassed the 500 minute mark in penalties. His 145 penalty minutes on the year raised his career total to 572. Frankie scored 24 goals and added 16 assists in 33 games played. Arsenault used him as both a forward and defenceman.

First-year forward Franco Iammateo, a former standout performer in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League with Longueuil, played in 29 games, scoring 15 goals and adding 30 assists. Rookie Jeff Carter of Long Sault, Ontario, was the team's iron man. He suited up for all 38 games, scoring 18 goals and adding 20 assists.

Second year defenceman Neil Trineer enjoyed a productive campaign. The Toronto native, who spent three seasons in the Ontario Junior Hockey League prior to joining the Stingers, notched 39 points on 11 goals and 28 assists. He also enjoyed some celebrity status as a result of his cameo role in the motion picture "Youngblood".

In goals, Arsenault tried five netminders. Rookie Ken Hrivnak saw most of the action, playing a total of 1,133 minutes between the pipes. Veteran Tony Guerriero rejoined the club at mid-season, after sitting out the start of the campaign.

It is conceivable that at least 24 of the players who were part of the Stingers' roster this season, could be back at training camp next September.